

FORM B - BUILDING

Date (*month / year*): June 2018

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

43-0-34-0

Hanover

HNS.239

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 1127 Main Street

Historic Name: Isaac Howland Livery Stable

Uses: Present: Commercial

Original: Commercial/Livery Stables

Date of Construction: ca. 1885

Source: White's History, Plan No. 4, Page 59

Style/Form: No Style

Architect/Builder: Thomas G. Fuller

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Brick

Wall/Trim: Vinyl Clapboard/Vinyl

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Building converted from a stables building into store space, vinyl clapboard siding (installed since 2012) and vinyl windows

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ **yes** ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: .24 Acres

Setting: Located on one of the town's main thoroughfares at the center of a small commercial area characterized by older nineteenth century buildings and late twentieth century construction adjacent to the commuter rail station.

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The two-and-a-half story structure has an asphalt shingle gable-end roof which extends over a long one-story addition on the west facade. From the street to the north, the one-story addition is hidden behind a tall, flat topped false front which extends out from the lower edge of the gable-end in the left half of the building. The building is finished in vinyl clapboard siding with vinyl trim and one-over-one double hung vinyl replacement windows. The roof projects out over the gable and gable-end facades and has wide, flat vinyl trimmed eaves and soffits. This projection is particularly noticeable around the gable-end, and the flat roof to its right also has a short projecting cap along its upper edge. A single, narrow brick chimney is located in the northwest corner of the gable-end roof but multiple metal chimneys are visible running up the east façade of the building and along the west roof slope.

The building faces north towards the street and the commuter rail station. A single double hung window is located in the gable end of the building and in the left corner of the second floor. Across the first floor of the building are three rows of black awning with advertising along its outer edge. The first awning to the left extends out over two double hung windows and the middle one covers a metal and glass entrance door. The awning in the right corner is set higher on the façade over a large two-part storefront window and another glass and metal door. Two wall signs are located at the center of the façade over the entrances and are lit by downlights.

As noted above, the east façade has a number of vents extending out of it with a large round vent and a solid door near the center of the façade. On the west façade, the long slope of the gable roof is visible behind the narrow false front running across the north façade of the building. The one-story façade is also notable for the many vents and metal chimneys extending from it. Two narrow awning windows are also located at the center of the façade. The area surrounding the building is entirely paved and used for parking. A low retaining wall runs from the building to a freestanding wood sign located at the edge of the street. Narrow bands of mature trees are visible along the east, west, and south property lines.

The Google Maps image of the property from 2012 shows the building with wood clapboard siding and wide cornice boards around its north façade which have since been covered over or replaced. The building also still had a hayloft door at the center of the gable-end structure at that time with a wide, projecting header above a wood panel with a six-pane window at its center. Both the gable-end and second floor windows also have their wood window frames with projecting headers.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's History of Hanson, the building at 1127 Main St was built around 1885 by Thomas G. Fuller for either Hiram Randall or his son-in-law, Isaac N. Howland. Hiram Randall(1817-1891) of Pembroke purchased

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the property in 1881 from Richard Howland.¹ Randall was the son of Joanna and Isaac Randall and had married Cordelia Simmons in Duxbury in 1838. Hiram worked as a mail and express contractor in the 1880s, and may have used the site, with its close proximity to the railroad station, for his delivery business. His daughter, Sarah E. Randall, married Isaac N. Howland (1839-1900) of Abington, son of Isaac J. Howland and Mary Smith, in 1866. Isaac Howland had lived with the Randalls since at least 1865, when the state census lists both Isaac and Hiram as stage drivers. Isaac and his young family remained in Pembroke, where he presumably continued to work with or for his father-in-law. The 1880 U.S. Census listed Isaac as an express man, again in coordination with Hiram. In 1882, Hiram sold the Main Street property to Isaac N. Howland, along with an additional property in Hanson and one in Abington.² That same year, Isaac mortgaged all of the properties to Cordelia Randall, who eventually acquired the Main Street property in 1889.³ This 1889 deed is the first one to reference buildings on the site, suggesting that it was during Isaac Howland's ownership of the site that the buildings were constructed by Thomas G. Fuller (1845-1922). Thomas G. Fuller was a carpenter living and working in Hanson, according to the 1880 U.S. Census, with his wife, Mary E., and three small children, and as a house wright in the 1900 U.S. Census.

The Howlands and Randalls presumably used the building for their freight business until 1900, when Cordelia Randall sold the property to Elijah T. Ford(1846-1915).⁴ Ford had been born in Duxbury to Benjamin and Mary Ford and had served in the Union Army from 1864-1865 before marrying Hattie M. Reed in Kingston in 1876. However it is Elijah's son, Sidney E. Ford (1881-1946), who appears as the owner on the 1903 Richards Atlas. Sidney Ford married Mattie M. Morse in 1904 and is listed on the 1910 U.S. Census as a real estate agent in Hanson. Sidney or his father may also have run Ford's Livery Stable from the building as well. Sidney did not stay long in Hanson, however, and was living and working as a real estate agent in Abington in 1920. By the 1930 U.S. Census he was working as a florist in East Bridgewater and he continued in that career in West Bridgewater in the 1940s. White notes that in addition to Ford's Livery Stable, the building also housed a garage in 1938, a box storage business in 1941, a lumberyard in 1948, and a power equipment store in 1956.

In 1920, Hattie Ford, now living in Abington, sold the building on behalf of Elijah Ford's estate to Lillian and A. Merton Burrell(b.1864).⁵ A. Merton was born in Vermont and had married Lillian Tower in Rockland in 1885. He worked as an express agent in the 1920 U.S. Census and was a postal carrier by the time of the 1930 U.S. Census. In 1926, the building was sold to the United Cape Cod Cranberry Co.⁶ Marcus Urann, who is listed in *White's History* as being the owner of the property during White's time, was a founder of the company, which would later become Ocean Spray, and most likely became associated with the site due to his business interests there. The United Cape Cod Cranberry Co. sold the building in 1948 to David(1913-2004) and Lucy Clemons (1915-2011). According to the 1940 U.S. Census, both David and Lucy were lifelong residents and lived on High Street while David owned the Hanson Hardware Company and ran the lumberyard at 1127 Main Street from 1949-1954. In addition to the previously noted stores, the building later held a cycle shop, stove shop, and the Gillis power equipment store until it moved down the street in 2014. In 2000, the building was transferred to their sons, Richard and Allan Clemons, who oversaw the interior restoration of the barn at that time. The building was sold again in 2017 to S&R Holdings LLC and currently houses The Chimney Chap store.

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¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 470, Page 442

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 479, Page 1882

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 573, Page 211

⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 800, Page 491

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1357 page 347

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1512, page 33

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